

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Fairbanks North Star Borough****Federal Tax ID: 73-1677483****Project Title:****Project Type:** Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades

Fairbanks North Star Borough - Isberg 4-Season Trail - Alaska Long Trail

State Funding Requested: \$990,000**House District:** Fairbanks Areawide (1-5)

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Roughly 3 miles of Isberg trail system will be hardened and have drainage features added to facilitate year-round use, adding a motorized Alaska Long Trail braid.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$990,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2023 State Funding Request:	(\$990,000)
Project Deficit:	\$0

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

The Isberg trails are a popular motorized and non-motorized draw, especially in the winter. But the area is under-utilized in the summer due to the wet conditions. Recent grant-funded projects have hardened over a mile of previously mucky trails, but much more is needed. Roughly 3 miles of trail will be hardened and have drainage features added to facilitate year-round use. As developments continue to make this trail system more inviting, people from all over the community are coming to enjoy the trails, natural landscape, berry picking, and wildlife viewing. Becoming a launch-off hub for the Alaska Long Trail is another incentive for developing an all-season trail.

BENEFITS AND NEED

- Ultimate lowland connection for proposed Alaska Long Trail to Fairbanks communities.
- Year-round access to scenic spruce lowlands.
- Easy, short trail loops; Convenient day-use.
- High interpretive potential.
- Increase nearby residential property values.
- Reduce environmental impacts through wetlands.

PROJECT LEAD AND PARTNERS: Fairbanks North Star Borough Parks & Recreation**PROJECT STATUS**

Trail connections to and through Isberg Rec Area were made a priority in the FNSB adopted 2006 Comprehensive Recreational Trail Plan. In 2007 a Master Plan for the Isberg Rec Area was also adopted, specifically calling out the need to improve major trail connections. In 2019, the FNSB adopted a Capital Improvement Plan which prioritized the

implementation of the Isberg master plan as a project for which to secure funding from FNSB and outside sources. Since 2007, trail connections in Isberg have been reconstructed using pass-through funds from multiple Recreational Trails Program grants. This project continues such work. The scope includes improving key sections within the Master Plan that must be developed to facilitate the Alaska Long Trail and finish the connection between Tanana Valley State Forest Land to the residential areas of Ester, Chena Ridge and West Fairbanks.

USE: Multi-use: motorized/non-motorized

ESTIMATED COST:

3 miles of wet winter trails to be hardened for all-season use (class 3 ATV trail) x \$250,000 per mile = \$750,000

Adds a new trailhead (no restroom) = \$150,000

Project oversight and management (10%): \$90,000

Total: \$990K

Project Timeline:

2023

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Fairbanks North Star Borough

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No